

# NEBRASKA WEATHER & CROPS

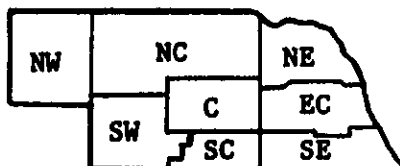
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5/12/86*



Week Ending May 11, 1986

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## WEATHER

Precipitation averaged around an inch across the north and east with a quarter to a half inch across the south. Temperatures were four degrees below normal over the Panhandle and five to seven degrees above normal over the central and east.

## GENERAL

Farmers made excellent progress planting corn last week with 60% of the crop planted as of Sunday. Rains did slow planting after midweek, but progress still stands at nearly double the pace of the 5-year average. Snow fell in parts of the west last week, with other parts of Nebraska experiencing hail, heavy rains, tornadoes, and limited flooding. Driest soil conditions exist in parts of the southwest with only 15 hundredths of precipitation last week. The rains reported in many areas should help break up dry, crusted soils and make herbicides more effective. The number of days suitable for fieldwork was 5.5.

Statewide, topsoil moisture rated 17% short, 67% adequate and 16% surplus. Subsoil supplies were rated 7% short, 88% adequate and 5% surplus. A year ago, topsoil moisture rated 33% short and 67% adequate. Subsoil supplies were 24% short and 76% adequate.

## CROPS

Corn planting jumped to 60% complete, same as a year ago but well ahead of 35% average. Planting was near 85% complete in the south central counties but less than 50% across the northern third of the State.

Sorghum planting was underway at 5%, compared to 15% last year and 5% average. Soybean planting had also begun and was 5% complete, compared with 6% last year and 2% average.

Winter wheat crop condition rated 25% fair, 62% good and 13% excellent. Seventy percent of the crop had jointed, just behind 75% a year ago but ahead of 55% average. However, below normal temperatures during the week limited wheat development in the Panhandle with only 25% of the crop having jointed.

Alfalfa crop condition rated 2% poor, 31% fair, 62% good and 5% excellent. The effects of the hard freeze three weeks ago continues to be seen in some areas with short stands reported. Wild hay conditions rated mostly good to fair.

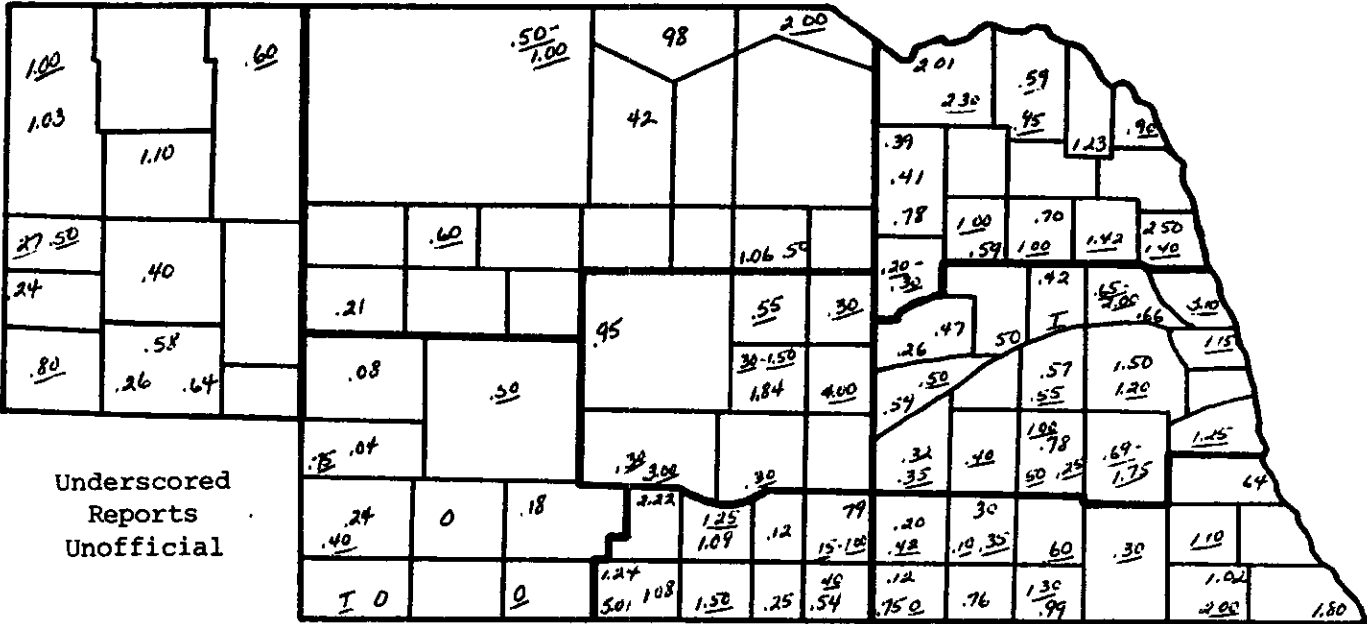
## LIVESTOCK

Calving was near completion in most parts of the State with calf branding operations underway. Warmer weather is needed to boost pasture and range growth. Producers are still providing supplemental feed in many areas of the north and west. Dry weather in the southwest was limiting the growth of rangelands.

## Precipitation, April 1 - May 9, 1986

	NW	NC	NE	CEN	EC	SW	SC	SE
Total past week .....	.61	.63	1.08	1.40	.61	.09	1.37	.73
Total since April 1 .....	4.19	4.19	5.54	5.13	5.95	2.24	3.31	5.39
Normal since April 1 .....	2.49	2.85	3.31	3.10	3.56	2.60	3.09	3.77

PRECIPITATION MAP FOR WEEK ENDING FRIDAY, MAY 9, 1986



TEMPERATURE AND PRECIPITATION DATA FOR WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, MAY 11, 1986

Station		Temperature				Precipitation
		Extremes		Mean	Departure	Total Inches <u>1/</u>
		Max	Min			
NW	Chadron	80	34	51	--	1.19
	Scottsbluff	82	33	50	-4	.52
	Sidney	79	30	50	--	--
NC	Ord	81	41	64	--	.25
	Valentine	86	33	55	+1	1.18
NE	Norfolk	82	47	66	+8	.72
	Sioux City	82	47	66	+7	.70
CEN	Grand Island	84	43	65	+7	.71
EC	Lincoln	84	45	66	+7	.70
	Omaha	84	52	61	+2	1.41
SW	Imperial	89	36	59	--	.20
	North Platte	85	39	61	+5	.09

1/ Precipitation totals not included in map above.

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